

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A puncture sealing agent comprising at least:
a rubber latex solution;
a short fiber; and
a clay based viscosity improver,
wherein the viscosity of the rubber latex solution after addition of the clay based viscosity improver thereto is from 3 to 6000 mPa·s in the range of +50 to -20°C, and
wherein a diameter (D) of the short fiber is in the range of: $5 \leq D \leq 30 \mu\text{m}$.
2. (original): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1, wherein the content of a solid component is 5 to 70 mass percent and the content of the short fiber is 0.1 to 5 mass percent.
3. (currently amended): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1 or 2, wherein a length (L) ~~and a diameter (D)~~ of the short fiber, ~~respectively, are~~ is in the ~~ranges below~~ range of:
~~Length (L): $0.05 \leq L \leq 10 \text{ mm}$ and~~
~~Diameter (D): $1 \leq D \leq 100 \mu\text{m}$.~~
4. (original): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1 or 2, wherein a ratio (L/D) of a length (L) to a diameter (D) of the short fiber is in the range of $5 \leq L/D \leq 2000$.
5. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1 or 2, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing an inorganic filler with a material that is lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

6. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1 or 2, wherein the short fiber is made of a porous material that is higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

7. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 1 or 2, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing a material lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution and a material higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

8. (original): The puncture sealing agent of claim 7, wherein the short fiber has a multi-layered structure and the outermost layer thereof is made of a material higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

9. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 3, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing an inorganic filler with a material that is lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

10. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 4, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing an inorganic filler with a material that is lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

11. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 3, wherein the short fiber is made of a porous material that is higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

12. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 4, wherein the short fiber is made of a porous material that is higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

13. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 3, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing a material lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution and a material higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.

14. (previously presented): The puncture sealing agent of claim 4, wherein the short fiber is obtained by compositing a material lower in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution and a material higher in specific gravity than the rubber latex solution.